

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 971

By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Woody Harrell for his exceptional efforts to preserve Tennessee's Civil War heritage.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who have worked and continue to work to preserve the collective history of the citizens of the great State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable citizen is Woody Harrell, who has worked diligently and tirelessly to preserve and promote Tennessee's military history, specifically Civil War history; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell serves as the Superintendent of Shiloh National Military Park for the National Park Service, but this post is just one of his many roles in protecting and preserving Civil War history; and

WHEREAS, as a Wars Commission Advisory Board member, Woody Harrell actively participated in the formation of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA), a 501(c)(3) organization; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a charter member of TCWPA, Mr. Harrell continues to support this nascent organization as a member of its Advisory Board; this position requires frequent travel, but Mr. Harrell generously and willingly donates his time and expertise to this budding organization; and

WHEREAS, the TCWPA has relied on Mr. Harrell's unwavering support as it has changed from an all-volunteer organization into a professionally staffed organization; and

WHEREAS, as a federal partner to the TCWPA, Woody Harrell has been a fount of knowledge and expertise for the fledgling organization; he keeps TCWPA members informed about Tennessee's National Battlefield activities, ensures constant and dynamic communication



between the National Park Service and the TCWPA, and provides information about federal funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, instrumental in the formation of TCWPA's mission statement, Mr. Harrell continues to provide technical review for its interpretive plans and organization documents; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with TCWPA, Woody Harrell helped to develop the Tennessee Civil War Battlefield Assessment Project, a web page that documents the condition of battlefields across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, believed to be the first web page of its kind, the Battlefield Assessment Project will serve as a prototype for similar projects in other states; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a valuable resource for Tennessee citizens and visitors alike, the web site will be useful in building a grassroots campaign dedicated to saving Civil War battlefields; and

WHEREAS, Woody Harrell's contributions to this project were essential; he created the model, the demonstration program, and the first database for more than thirty (30) Tennessee battlefields; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell's remarkable involvement in statewide preservation projects also includes planning for the "Vicksburg Campaign Trail," which helped ensure the thorough documentation and the comprehensive evaluation of Civil War resources along this trail in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell has also worked with State of Tennessee officials in the planning and overseeing of a Tennessee Monument at Shiloh National Military Park; and

WHEREAS, Woody Harrell's impressive list of Civil War preservation activities also includes several partnerships with local communities; and

WHEREAS, one noteworthy example of this partnership is with the City of Parkers Crossroads, where Mr. Harrell has provided advice and assistance to the Parkers Crossroads Battlefield Association in preservation and interpretation efforts at the Parkers Crossroads National Battlefield Park, as well as at Britton Lane and Davis Bridge Battlefields; and

WHEREAS, evincing incomparable pride and dedication to preserving Tennessee and American history, Mr. Woody Harrell has worked relentlessly to provide his fellow citizens with

opportunities to visit Civil War battlefields and to reflect on the history of our great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, his passion for preservation and history helps to make Shiloh National Military Park and other Tennessee Civil War sites living and breathing parts of our State's heritage; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and this remarkable historical preservationist should be specially recognized for his astute and honorable service to the good people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Mr. Woody Harrell for his abundant contributions to the preservation of the history of our State and Nation, commend him on his unwavering commitment to public service and volunteerism, and thank him for playing an integral part in conserving and disseminating the stories and events that comprise our Nation's history. We extend to him our best wishes for every success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.